Martin, S

June 1920 (067)

638 Queens Ave.
London, June 1st 1920.

Sir Robert Falconer,
President, University of Toronto
Toronto, Canada

Dear Sir

Facing the probability of being classified as a "disappointed fond father", I dare to protest the work of the Professor of History in dealing with honor men in departments other than his own

In 1919 all the men in the honor department of Mathematics of the third year, with I believe one exception were required to take supplementary Examinations in the subject of History, and now again in Mathematics and in Science a very considerable number have been deprived of the privilege of graduating with their class mates.

To an outsider this result seems to be unwarranted, and unfair to the Students and to the University.

I am quite in favor of the Courses being reasonably broad; but I am not in favor of allowing the Professor in some other department to control the fate of the men in Mathematics and Science.

I do not think I should be rash or wide of the mark if I should say that many of the honor graduates in History might

Easily be held back from Graduation if some inconsiderate Examiner in Mathematics were allowed a free hand in magnifying the Supreme importance of his department of University work.

The promoters of the Extension of the Study of History have been aggressive for some time and have gone to the limit with the Department of Education, and it appears with the University as well.

My feeling is that the honor men in the fourth year have received unfair and unreasonable treatment

Yours faithfully

S. McClure

June 2nd, 1920

S. Martin, Esq.,
638 Queen's Avenue,
London, Ont.

Dear Mr. Martin:

I am sorry that this year there have been a number of failures in Modern History. The work apparently was not well done by a large number of students, and all those who have failed have since been carefully considered again by the staff in History, who report that they can do nothing in the matter.

The addition of this subject is not due to the Department of History. In some of the Science Departments it was asked for by the heads of the department, but in most cases the addition of History is due to the requirements of the Department of Education in order that specialist standing might be granted on the basis of the degree received. I am glad to say that modifications have been introduced, and we hope that there will be less possibility in the future of this subject being demanded of students who would not otherwise have taken it. In the meantime I do not see what further can be done. I may simply assure you that the cases have received the utmost consideration and the facts have been laid before the committees. Allow me at the same time to express to you my personal regret that your daughter has has this star. I can quite sympathise in her deep disappointment at such a time as this, but it should not be regarded as reflecting upon the full value of her university work.

Yours sincerely,

President.